

Customer No. 24498
Internal Docket No. PF020087
Office Action Date: 10/30/2008

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-11 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-10 have been amended to clarify certain aspects by improving grammar. Claims 3, 6 and 11 were previously amended. No new matter is believed to be added by the present amendment.

The specification is amended to correct an obvious mistake. See specification page 10, lines 14-25 (line 19, to be corrected by replacing "n/a" by "a/n") explaining certain aspects of the invention.

Claim 1 is supported by the specification, by way of example only, certain aspects of the invention are directed to a method for implementing trick modes when reading audio and video data from a storage medium, this storage medium being linked to the receiver through a bus, for example a IEEE 1394 bus.

Parameters defining the trick mode (fast forward mode with a specified speed, slow-motion operation...) are used to calculate an offset value added to the stored tag value, specified as a time-stamp for the packet (see specification page 7, lines 3) to increase or decrease the instant of transfer of the packets.

For example, if the difference between the stored tag values between two packets is "a" on an average (this is the computation step of the difference between two consecutive packets), if the parameters for the trick mode specify a fast forward mode at a speed 2 times greater than the normal speed, the calculated offset will be $a/2$ (this is the computation step of an offset value according to the difference "a" and parameters defining the trick mode to implement).

So, a first packet is sent at time TS, the second one at time $TS + \text{offset} = TS + a/2$ instead of $TS + a$, the next one at time $TS + a/2 + a/2$ instead of $TS + 2a$... (step of addition of the stored label to the offset). Note the above mentioned correction to the specification.

The claimed device and method specifies the use of a modified tag value for implementing the trick mode. Support can be found, for example, page 9, lines 3-19.

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Rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the subject matter of the invention, which is a method for implementing trick modes when encoded video data stored on a storage medium is being transmitted to a receiver over a bus.

The preamble of claim 1 has been amended to provide a clear environment of the invention. These attributes are used by the method to determine transfer times of packets over the bus when trick modes are implemented.

The preamble of claim 1 has been further amended to remove any functional steps. The claimed method's steps specify the use of a modified tag value for implementing the trick mode. For example, on page 9, lines 3-19. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

With respect to claim 2, the computation between stored tag values of two consecutive packets is averaged over several packets (for example, as described on page 9 lines 5-10). The computation can be repeatedly performed between a series of two consecutive packets, for example during ten or so seconds. Claim 2 has been amended, specifying now the difference between two consecutive packets is averaged over a succession of packets. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 has been amended for clarity purpose. The trick modes are slow-motion and fast forward modes and a parameter of a trick mode is a speed. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 has been amended and is now directed to a device, which is patentable subject matter. The steps of claim 1 recited in claim 9 have been removed from claim 9. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 10 has been amended to depend from the device claim 9.

Claims 2-8, 10 and 11 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from an allowable base claim. Therefore, in view of the amendments and the reasons discussed above, it is submitted that the present claims 1-11 are allowable under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 101

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "transferring a packet over the bus by using a modified tag value as the tag value for comparison, wherein the modified tag value being determined by."

The transfer time of a packet is defined according to a modified tag value when trick modes are implemented. The modified tag value is determined using the steps that are alleged in the Office action as "pure math." Applicant respectfully disagrees. These features are utilized to determine and output the modified tag value being used for comparison with a counted value, and therefore to define a transfer time of a packet over the bus when trick modes are implemented.

Thus, the "computation" and "addition" recited in claim 1 are tied to a particular physical application and complies with 35 U.S.C. 101. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-8 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from an allowable base claim. Therefore, in view of the amendments and the reasons discussed above, it is submitted that the present claims 1-8 are allowable under 35 U.S.C. 101. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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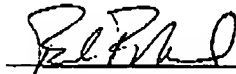
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Conclusion

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6815, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,



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